Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

a) a polypeptide comprising **the** ~~an~~ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, **and**

b) a polypeptide **that is** ~~comprising a naturally occurring amino acid sequence~~ at least **95%** [[~~90%~~]] identical to **the** ~~an~~ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, said polypeptide having DNA binding activity~~,~~

~~c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, said polypeptide having DNA binding activity, and~~

~~d) an immunogenic fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1~~.

2. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3.-13. (Canceled)

14. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:

a) hybridizing the sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides comprising a sequence complementary to said target polynucleotide in the sample, and which probe specifically hybridizes to said target polynucleotide, under conditions whereby a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and said target polynucleotide or fragments thereof, and

b) detecting the presence or absence of said hybridization complex, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 14, wherein the probe comprises at least 60 contiguous nucleotides.

16. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:

a) amplifying said target polynucleotide or fragment thereof using polymerase chain reaction amplification, and

b) detecting the presence or absence of said amplified target polynucleotide or fragment thereof, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.

17. (Original) A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

18 (Previously presented) A composition of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

19. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with decreased expression of functional PRAEP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment the composition of claim 17.

20. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an agonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and

b) detecting agonist activity in the sample.

21. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an agonist compound identified by a method of claim 20 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with decreased expression of functional PRAEP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a composition of claim 21.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an antagonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and

b) detecting antagonist activity in the sample.

24. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an antagonist compound identified by a method of claim 23 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a disease or condition associated with overexpression of functional PRAEP, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a composition of claim 24.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

a) combining the polypeptide of claim 1 with at least one test compound under suitable conditions, and

b) detecting binding of the polypeptide of claim 1 to the test compound, thereby identifying a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.

27. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound that modulates the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising:

a) combining the polypeptide of claim 1 with at least one test compound under conditions permissive for the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1,

b) assessing the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound, and

c) comparing the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound with the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the absence of the test compound,

wherein a change in the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1 in the presence of the test compound is indicative of a compound that modulates the activity of the polypeptide of claim 1.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness in altering expression of a target polynucleotide, wherein said target polynucleotide comprises a polynucleotide sequence of claim 5, the method comprising:

a) exposing a sample comprising the target polynucleotide to a compound, under conditions suitable for the expression of the target polynucleotide,

b) detecting altered expression of the target polynucleotide, and

c) comparing the expression of the target polynucleotide in the presence of varying amounts of the compound and in the absence of the compound.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for assessing toxicity of a test compound, said method comprising:

a) treating a biological sample containing nucleic acids with the test compound;

b) hybridizing the nucleic acids of the treated biological sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides of a polynucleotide of claim 12 under conditions whereby a specific hybridization complex is formed between said probe and a target polynucleotide in the biological sample, said target polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12 or fragment thereof;

c) quantifying the amount of hybridization complex; and

d) comparing the amount of hybridization complex in the treated biological sample with the amount of hybridization complex in an untreated biological sample, wherein a difference in the amount of hybridization complex in the treated biological sample is indicative of toxicity of the test compound.

30.-45. (Canceled)

46. (Original) A polypeptide of claim 1, comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

47. (Withdrawn) A polynucleotide of claim 12, comprising the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.